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KAREN DEAL

CONDUCTOR



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Contents:

- Biography
- Critical Acclaim
- Curriculum Vitae
- References

www.karendeal.com

BIOGRAPHY

In her first five seasons with the Illinois Symphony Orchestra Maestra Karen Lynne Deal has already won the Illinois Humanities Council, "Studs Terkel" award for her service in education and outreach, the Illinois Council of Orchestras award for "Community Service," the Springfield Art's Council's Mayor's Award for Individual Artist of the Year, and the Illinois Council of Orchestras award for "Meritorious Service in Outstanding Programming." She is a favorite guest speaker and advocate for the arts wherever she goes, and is often called upon to present lectures on leadership and diversity inclusion for academic and civic groups. As Music Director, Karen Lynne Deal has created new opportunities for people of all ages to come to know and enjoy orchestral music.

As Associate Conductor of the Nashville Symphony from 1992-2000, Ms. Deal made a true impact on the public at large, winning widespread praise for enhancing the symphony's role in the community through innovative education programs and outreach initiatives to minority audiences. Ms. Deal also served as Music Director and Conductor of Nashville Ballet from 1992-2000, and has been a frequent guest conductor with the Nashville Opera Association since 1992. Before moving to Nashville, Ms. Deal spent six years as Associate Conductor of the Annapolis Symphony Orchestra, and was Founding Music Director of the Sinfonia Concertante, a professional chamber orchestra noted for its commitment to living composers. She made her European debut in Vienna, Austria with the Pro Arte Orchestra in 1984 while attending postgraduate school at the Hochschule Fur Musik und Darnstellende Kunst. She also assisted at the Frankfurt State Opera before returning to the United States to pursue doctoral studies at The Peabody Conservatory of Music in Baltimore. She has received conducting scholarships both at the Aspen and Tanglewood Music Festivals, and in 1989 won the National Repertory Orchestra Biennial Conducting Competition.

Ms. Deal's public image is wide ranging, from appearances on PBS' Nova science series, to the 1997 "Coolest People," award by Nashville Life magazine. She has received citations of appreciation from: the Mayor of Nashville, in "recognition of her years of leadership as creator, conductor, and coordinator of "Let Freedom Ring," an annual musical tribute to Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.;" the Nashville Public Schools Board of Education, for her "curriculum based performances... expanding children's knowledge of music using a musical format to teach history, social studies, language arts and visual arts;" and from the Council of the Metropolitan Government of Nashville, for her "passionate approach to educating her young audiences" and "creating the next generation of symphony audiences and Art's advocates."

Recent guest conducting engagements have included the Springfield (MO) Symphony Orchestra, Nashville Symphony, New Mexico Symphony Orchestra, Waterloo/Cedar Falls (Iowa), Tulsa, Tucson, Sacramento, Richmond, Westmoreland, Brevard, and Bremerton Symphony Orchestras, as well as the Kansas City Camerata. At home with a wide variety of styles and concert formats, Maestra Deal has conducted for such prominent soloists as Itzhak Perlman, James Galway, and William Warfield, as well as popular artists, Peter, Paul and Mary, Chet Atkins, Kathy Mattea, and Mercedes Ellington. The summer of 2002 found Ms. Deal returning to guest conduct the National Repertory Orchestra in Breckenridge, Colorado in the Colorado premiere of Chicago composer, Stacy Garrop's, Thunderwalker. Summer of 2003 took her to Mexico City where she guest conducted the Orquesta del Nuevo Mundo, in the concert premiere of, Mujeres e Musicas, featuring Mexican premieres by female composers including works by Clara Schumann, Fanny Mendelssohn, Maria Grever and Maria Martinez. In addition, Ms. Deal is a regular faculty member at the Conductor's Institute at Bard College in New York.

CRITICAL ACCLAIM

"To Karen - whose musical enthusiams are captivating, matched only by your charm."
Isaac Stern

"I have had such a good time... with love,"
Rosemary Clooney

"Rhythmically and in every other way you are the best and I do love you madly.
4 kisses - one for each cheek!"
Mercedes Ellington

"For Karen, Best wishes and Bravo!"
Itzhak Perlman

"Thanks Karen, for a great performance."
William Warfield

"We loved working with you, you're wonderful. Our lives are connected."
Peter, Paul and Mary

"What an ovation! The choir was inspired by your spirit, your clear conducting and cogent musical ideas. The Tchaikovsky was stunning"
Pam Sneller, Chorus Director

The 100 Coolest People, Nashville Life Magazine

"These folks are leading interesting lives, serving others, creating great environments, doing good work or turning cool visions into reality. These are a few of the people that civilize us." "Karen Lynne Deal, is a fine musical artist, but her work is made even more impressive because of what she overcomes."

"Dear Maestro, Congratulations for the absolutely wonderful "Let Freedom Ring" concert. Under your direction, the entire evening was magical and immensely satisfying. You communicated powerfully your respect for African American culture and the gesture surely was not missed."

Dr. James A. Heffner, President,
Tennessee State University

CURRICULUM VITAE

PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

2000-Present	Illinois Symphony Orchestra, Music Director and Conductor.
2000-Present	Illinois Chamber Orchestra, Music Director and Conductor.
1992-2000	The Nashville Symphony, Associate Conductor, Tennessee.
1992-2000	Nashville Ballet, Music Director and Conductor, Tennessee.
1997-2000	Nashville Opera Association, Conductor, Tennessee.
1997-2000	Belmont University, Conducting Faculty, Tennessee.
1993-1997	Tennessee Opera Theatre, Principal Conductor, Tennessee.
1986-1992	Annapolis Symphony Orchestra, Associate Conductor, Maryland.
1988-1992	Sinfonia Concertante, Founding Music Director, Maryland.
1988-1992	Loyola College, Faculty: Music History, Applied Flute, Maryland.
1990-1992	Chesapeake Youth Symphony, Founding Music Director, Maryland.
1989-1990	National Repertory Orchestra, Assistant Conductor, Colorado.
1985	Frankfurt State Opera, Hospitantin, Germany.
1983-1984	Rockbridge Orchestra, Music Director, Virginia.

GUEST CONDUCTING ENGAGEMENTS

2004	Springfield Symphony Orchestra, Springfield, Missouri.
2004	The Nashville Symphony, Martin Luther King, Jr. "Let Freedom Ring."
2003-Present	Conductor's Institute at Bard, Faculty, Annandale on the Hudson, New York.
May 2003	Orchestre del Mundo, Mexico City, Mexico.
July 2002	National Repertory Orchestra, Breckenridge, Colorado.
July 2001	Conductors Institute of South Carolina, Faculty, Columbus, South Carolina.
2001	New Mexico Symphony Orchestra, Albuquerque, New Mexico.
2000	Waterloo/Cedar Falls Symphony Orchestra, Iowa.
1997-2000	Tulsa Philharmonic, Oklahoma.
1998	The Westmoreland Symphony, Pennsylvania.
1995	Brevard Symphony Orchestra, Melbourne, Florida.
1995	Sacramento Symphony, California.
1994	Kansas City Camerata, Kansas.
1994	Tucson Symphony, Arizona.
1987	Richmond Symphony and Sinfonia, Virginia.
1984	Pro Arte Orchestra, Vienna, Austria.

HONORS AND AWARDS

2004	Studs Terkel Humanities Award, Illinois Council for the Humanities.
2004	Community Service Award, Illinois Council of Orchestras.
2002	Meritorious Service in Outstanding Programming Award, Illinois Council of Orchestras.
2001	Individual Artist of the Year, Mayor's Award for the Arts, Springfield Arts Council.
1991	Tanglewood Music Festival, Study with Gustav Meier, Leonard Slatkin, Leon Fleisher.
1988	Winner of 1988 National Repertory Orchestra Biennial Conducting Competition, CO.
1988	Aspen Music Festival, Fellowship Conductor with Paul Vermel.

EDUCATION

1987-1989	DMA in Orchestral Conducting, Peabody Conservatory of Music, Baltimore. ABD
1984-1985	Hochschule Fur Musik und Darnstellende Kunst, Vienna, Austria.
1980-1982	MM in Orchestra Conducting, Virginia Commonwealth University. Summa Cum Laude.
1976-1980	BM in Applied Flute, Oral Roberts University, Oklahoma. Magna Cum Laude Graduate.

REFERENCES

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